

PREPARATION OF WATER-SOLUBLE KERATIN PROTEIN

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Abstract of JP2051533

PURPOSE: To prepare a water-soluble keratin protein fit for the purpose of use and with a required MW in a short treating time and by a simple process by immersing keratin protein in an alkaline salt and hydrolyzing partially. **CONSTITUTION:** A keratin protein of wool, feather, hair, etc., is immersed in an alkaline salt soln. to cleave disulfide bonds in keratin and to form partially thioether bonds. As the alkaline salt, calcium hydroxide is especially pref. and in this case, the concn. is from 0.1wt.% to saturation (3-4%); the pH is 11-12; the treating temp. is 40 deg.C; and the immersing time is within 24hr. Then, hydrolysis with an acid or an alkali, decompn. with an enzyme, oxidative decompn. or reductive decompn. is performed to obtain a water-soluble keratin protein used for foods, cosmetics, industrial products, etc.

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